ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A compound is provided for increasing the concentration of a parent androgen in a subject in vivo. The parent androgen has a skeletal structure including a 1 position and a 17 position, a 17β-hydroxy group comprising a 17β-hydroxy oxygen appended to the 17 position, and a 17β-hydroxy hydrogen appended to the 17β-hydroxy oxygen. The compound includes a substrate having the skeletal structure of the parent androgen. It includes a 1 position and a 17 position corresponding to the 1 and 17 positions respectively of the parent androgen. The substrate has a carbon-carbon double bond at the 1 position. The compound also has a promoiety appended to the 17β-hydroxy oxygen of the substrate as a substitute for the 17β-hydroxy hydrogen of the parent androgen. The promoiety includes, and preferably consists of, an alkylcarbonate ester. A related method also is provided.